Dear Jim, re CBS/Chandler 12/15/75 1/9/76

Time, as always, controls all. But this letter is a gem and as I suggested earlier, we are in a position to do much for those fighting to preserve the fairness doctrine if we can contact them and they are interested.

This vice president says that an appearance on CBS in which they edit out what they don't want of the responses to questions they alone ask means the presentation of all responsible views. There is no other meaning in his crack about my refusing to appear on the King segment.(His words, not those of the regulation, are "contrasting views.")

He says, almost three weeks before the airing of the show,"we believe that we have acted fairly and responsibly..." If the show was completed by then, they sure acted fast because they include an uncredited bit if film from my 12/11 press conference. They also failed to not that where they claim to have received information under FOIA is was in duplication of my much earlier action and after I filed suit.

In short, there is an e ormous difference between being interviewed about what some executive(s) of CBS want discussed and being able to present a different, responsible view. However, here I think we may well be better off of charging plagiarism. Or combining them. It is my (non-lawyer's) understanding than on something like this the minimum for which suit can be filed i s the commerical value of the entire show. Unless on can show further damages.

Now on Belin, he did not just come out for a new investigation. They have not in ages presented any view on the WCother than that it was right. Nor did he dow it spontaneously. And CBS did know long enough before airing him of much, including that the same week he'd held a different view. In s ort, CBS refused to ask him what changed his mind so fast - and that was news and was relevant . He said the Report was right. His reasons were other than this. I phoned CBS Sunday morning before the Face the Nation people were there, got a call-back and was told George Herman would be told in advance of the questioning.

But that fact that in their opinion Belin was newsworthy does not relieve their obligation to present either their description, a "contrasting" view, or ours, one of the other responsible ones.

Just a few hasty thoughts as I try to clean up my desk while awaiting an overdue call from the lecture bureau which has, as they all are prone, messed up.

We'll talk more about this. But I've made a good start with Newsday. They have Les assigned to the story, he's coming here Tuesday and then going to Memphis on the Invaders. He's agreed to be an editor of a book, too. He just called me and I asked.

In the usual haste,